



Orcinus orca "Wolves of the sea"

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Resident orcas diet/hunting

- Mainly feed on chinook salmon
- Shorter dives than transient orcas
- Will herd fish into a ball and take turns diving in to feed



Transient orcas diet/hunting

- Diet consist of marine mammals, such as weddell seals, sharks, sea lions, and dolphins
 - Make longer dives
- Many different hunting techniques passed on by matriarch of the pod
 - Multichambered stomach

General characteristics

- Orcas are found in all oceans of the world
 - Order: Cetacea
 - Belong to the family Delphinidae
 - Two types: Resident & Transient
- Males can reach 12,000 pounds and be 22 feet long



Conservation

- Southern resident orcas are declining in population due to their prey populations declining
- This is due to dams such as the Snake River one which is causing salmon habitats to become destroyed

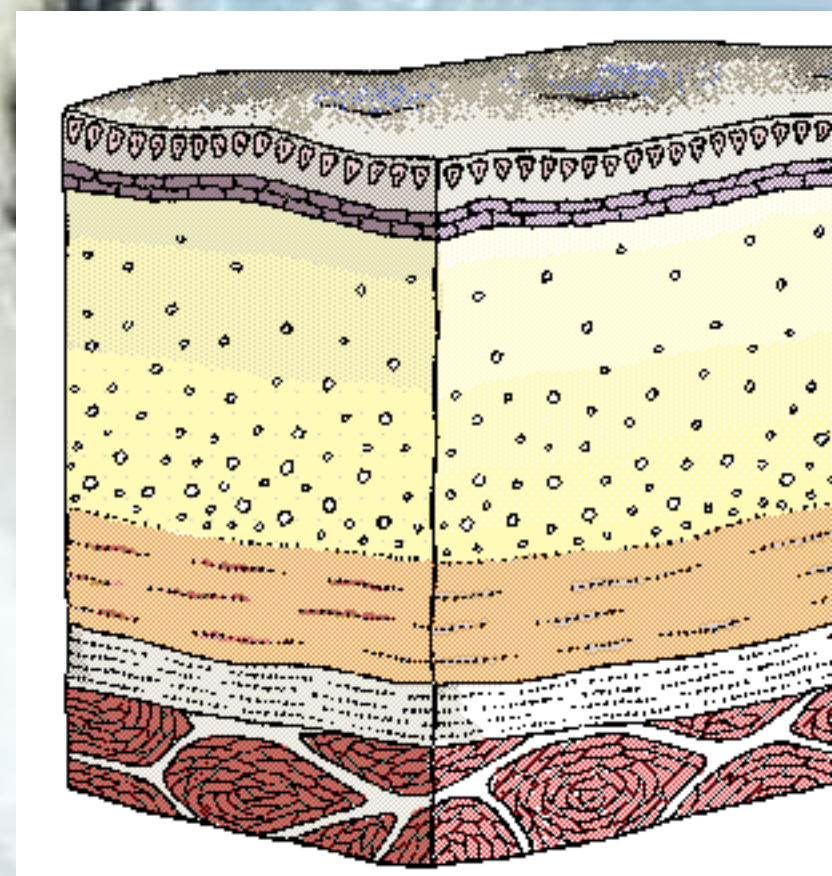


Orca pods

- Consists of grandmother, daughters, sisters
 - Family unit
- Grandmother teaches young orcas hunting techniques
- They stay with their pod for life, except some males venture out while young

Thermoregulation

- High metabolic rate which generates heat
- Blubber – thick layer of fat for insulation, energy storage, buoyancy, trapping and conserving heat
 - Advanced circulation



Diving adaptations

- Slow heart rate and pull blood away from extremities to conserve oxygen
- Higher concentrations of myoglobin in muscle